

Special Enshrinement and New Museum Exhibit



Hall of Fame Enshrinement

As part of its 2017 Inductee Class the Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame is honoring the Army-Navy Game with a Special Enshrinement. It is only the second such honor for an event, the first being The Penn Relays back in 2011.

First contested in Philadelphia in 1899 at Franklin Field, the Army-Navy game has been held in the City of Brotherly Love 86 times. JFK/Municipal Stadium hosted the most, 41 times from 1936 through 1979. This year's game is Saturday, December 9 at Lincoln Financial Field. "Although the Army-Navy game is occasionally played elsewhere, it is most closely associated with Philadelphia," said Ken Avallon, Hall of Fame president. "With a tradition dating back over 100 years this Enshrinement honors the long-standing partnership between Army-Navy and the City of Brotherly Love."

The Enshrinement is part of the Hall of Fame's 2017 Induction Ceremony, Thursday November 2 at the Hilton City Line Avenue in Philadelphia. Details are available at: <u>http://phillyhall.org/2017</u>.

The Hall of Fame's 2017 Inductees will be announced Thursday June 15 at its annual Press Conference and Luncheon

Army-Navy Museum Exhibit

The new exhibit features artifacts from Army-Navy Games held in Philadelphia throughout the years, including programs, photographs, souvenirs, books and other memorabilia along with bricks from JFK/Municipal Stadium. Also included are videos from some of the rivalry's greatest games held in Philadelphia.

The Army-Navy presentation joins current Preview Gallery exhibits of **The Palestra**, Eagles Legend **Bill Bergey**, Villanova's **Jumbo Elliott**, The **Philadelphia Athletics**, St. Joe's **Field House**, **Brendan Hansen**, 4-time Olympic Gold Medalist **Mel Sheppard**, **Veterans Stadium**, **The Spectrum** and tribute to all of the area's Olympic Gold Medalists.

The Hall of Fame's Preview Gallery at Spike's is a scaled-down museum of sports history in the Philadelphia area, featuring permanent displays and rotating exhibits. It serves as an incubator for design, development and growing ideas for the Hall of Fame's charter direction of bringing a world class sports museum, educational and entertainment destination to the Philadelphia region.

"At our Preview Galley we research, design, stage and present a variety of exhibits throughout the year. We digitize each display for on-line presentation and are building an inventory of near turn-key exhibits for the future," said Steve Tallant, Hall of Fame vice-president. " A full-scale, interactive sports museum has always been the Hall of Fame's vision. It has been a key component of our mission statement since inception."

The Philadelphia Sports Hall of Fame has collaborated with the Philadelphia History Museum (formerly the Atwater-Kent Museum) and with the National Constitution Center on their sports history themed initiatives. "We are proud to be the go-to resource when institutions look to highlight Philadelphia sports as part of their rotating content," said Avallon.

The Preview Gallery at Spikes Trophies, 2701 Grant Avenue Philadelphia, is open 9-12 Noon Saturdays and by appointment.